

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Korea

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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25X1A SUBJECT Miscellaneous Current Information
about North Korea

25X1C

1. For travel within North Korea, citizens require only an identification card or, if under eighteen, a birth certificate. The form of the identification cards has not been changed for some eighteen months. Travelers may also carry orders from their employers, which, although not essential, give priority. Military personnel must carry both military identification cards, which have not been changed in form since 1947, and military orders. Checks on travelers are made at railroad stations, between cities, and other places. Changes of residence for civilians require registration with the local police and necessitate obtaining a new civilian identification card.
2. Various commodities are rationed to the public, such as rice, 800 grams a day, and meat, 200 grams a day. Scarce foods, which may also be rationed, are soybeans, sugar, vegetables, cooking oil, pepper, eggs, fish, and milk. Government employees and military personnel receive special rations. All clothing is also rationed, the allowance being one pair of shoes a year, for example, and two men's suits.*
3. In Wonsan, sample prices are the following: rice, 400 won for 15 kilograms; eggs, 7 to 8 won each; beer, 45 won per liter bottle; socks, 100 won a pair; shoes, 2000 won a pair. A four-tube radio sells for 4000 won and a new Swiss watch for 15,000. Rent for a three or four room house is 500 won a month. Salary scales graduate from 5000 won a month for upper ranking public officials to 2000 won for military officers, 1000 won for skilled workers, and 50 won for enlisted military personnel.
4. Commercial telephone and telegraphs are available and can be used without showing identification. Available radios are long wave only and are all of Japanese or Soviet manufacture.

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- * ☐ Comment: Source's limited knowledge of civilian regulations and prices, etc., is due to the fact that as a military officer he was usually on a military base and made few civilian purchases.

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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.
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